



August 15, 2008

**Via E-Mail**

Mr. Gary K. Van Meter  
Deputy Director  
Office of Regulatory Policy  
Farm Credit Administration  
1501 Farm Credit Drive  
McLean, VA 22102-5090

Re: FCA's Proposed Rule on Mission-Related Investments as Published in the June 16, 2008 *Federal Register* (73 FR 33931)

Dear Mr. Van Meter:

On behalf of U.S. AgBank, FCB, I appreciate this opportunity to respond to FCA's request for comments on amendments to its regulations furthering the Farm Credit System's mission in its ability to invest in rural communities.

U.S. AgBank participated in the development of the comments submitted by the Farm Credit Council and fully supports the issues raised in the Council's response.

We want to emphasize that America's rural communities, and the farmers and ranchers that reside in these communities, often struggle in essential infrastructure, services and facilities. Key areas such as transportation, critical health care facilities, and education often drive employment and economic opportunities. Rural communities deserve to have access to multiple sources of capital to support new investment and infrastructure improvements in order to thrive and prosper.

Modernizing the FCA regulations is an important step toward providing rural areas an adequate and flexible flow of capital necessary to support the infrastructure needed by farmers and ranchers in these rural areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darryl Rhodes", written over a horizontal line.

Darryl Rhodes  
President & CEO